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Sent: Monday, March 06, 2006 7:34 AM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Cc: mlpa@livingseaimages.com
Subject: MLPAComments: Vote for Package 2 MLPA

I was disappointed to hear of the proposed rejection of Package 2 as the MPLA proposal. The key objective of the MLPA is to provide areas for marine life to grow to maturity in scientifically-selected area, to provide seed populations for harvest for future generations and while balancing recreational and economic needs of the stakeholder communities.

Package 2 accomplishes this. The introduction of the new Package S appears purely political and based on no science or logic. Package S frustrates the long-standing non-consumptive movement for Ricketts Reserve from the Breakwater to Lovers' Point. It's protections along the Pacific Grove shore are scarcely better than status quo, ignoring the wishes of residents and many visitors to that community. In this package, the Carmel Pinnacles Reserve is too small to achieve social and economic benefit to divers and the Monterey-area dive industry.

An example pointed out to me is that the December 2005 Packages 2 and 3 both banned spearfishing CONTESTS (but not spearfishing) in the Pacific Grove and Carmel Bay Marine Conservation Areas. Package S allows all recreational fishing, including contests ("shooting the scenery") in these two heavily-dived SMCAs. Clearly, Package S does NOT provide the level of protection intended by this whole process.

Please act on the intent of this whole MLPA process and select Package 2 as the basis for developing the MLPA in our area.

Thanks

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